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## Boston Support Office/Northeast Region News Release

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### NPS Issues Study on Women's Rights History Trail

The National Park Service (NPS) has released a report entitled "Women's Rights National History Trail Feasibility Study" for public comment. NPS was directed by Congress to complete a study exploring the feasibility of designating a formal trail commemorating the American women's rights movement and to develop a range of alternative concepts for consideration. The study was sponsored by Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (D-NY). Copies of the study are available upon request from Women's Rights National Historical Park at 136 Fall Street, Seneca Falls, New York 13148. The study is also available on-line at [www.nps.gov/wori](http://www.nps.gov/wori).

NPS welcomes comments on the report which may be sent to the following address: NPS, Boston Support Office, 15 State Street, Boston, MA 02109, Attn: Women's Rights Study or mailed electronically to [BOSO\\_history\\_trail\\_study@nps.gov](mailto:BOSO_history_trail_study@nps.gov). Written comments on the Women's Rights History Trail Feasibility Study will be accepted until August 16, 2002.

The study includes an assessment of the national significance of the women's rights movement within the context of American history and a preliminary inventory of historic properties related to women's rights within the project's study area. For the purposes of this project, the study area was defined as including the following states: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia.

The study also examined a range of alternative concepts for recognizing, promoting, and protecting historic properties associated with the women's rights movement. The results of the study do not support the designation of a formal long distance historic trail, but do offer the development of a smaller, automobile-based route linking women's rights sites located in Upstate New York including ,  
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Women's Rights NHP as an alternative concept. Also, in recognizing the national scope of the women's rights movement, the study includes two alternative concepts that would support the identification, documentation, and protection of women's rights historic properties nation-wide.

The study was prepared by the National Park Service's Boston Support Office in consultation with Women's Rights National Historical Park. A number of organizations and institutions participated in the development of this study. Key among the organizations and institutions consulted were the Women's Progress Commemoration Commission, National Collaborative for Women's History Sites, National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Conference on Women and Historic Preservation sponsored by the Organization of American Historians.

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